



## City Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 5, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Washington Fire Department Training Room - 200 N. Wilmor Road, Washington, Illinois

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**Call to Order** Mayor Gary W. Manier called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., with a quorum present.

**Roll Call** *Present:* Alderpersons Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, McIntyre, Smith, Stevens

**Also Present** City Administrator Snider, Planning and Development Director Jon Oliphant, City Engineer Dennis Carr, Finance Director Joanie Baxter, Public Works Director Brian Rittenhouse, City Treasurer Carol Crocker, City Clerk Valeri Brod, City Attorney Keith Braskich and Press

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**Pledge of Allegiance** All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Manier.

**Audience Comments** None provided.

**Agenda** Nothing added or deleted at this time.

### Deletions/Additions

**Consent Agenda** Mayor Manier presented the Consent Agenda for approval of the following items:

- A. Approve Minutes of the July 15, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting
- B. Payment Authorization for Eagle Avenue Sidewalk – Pay Request 1
- C. Authorization for Sauk Valley Community College (Police Academy Invoice)

Aldersperson Brownfield motioned to accept; Aldersperson McIntyre seconded.  
8 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, McIntyre, Smith, Stevens  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Mayoral Communications:** Mayor Manier shared no additional information and introduced Administrator Snider to provide updates.

**City Administrator Communications** Administrator Snider introduced City Engineer Carr who shared the following project updates:

- Engineering for BUS24 is moving forward with IDOT. They are trying to expedite the award to be included on the September bid.
- Freedom Parkway will be pushed back one month. They are working with the landscaper for scheduling.
- They are pouring concrete on Nofsinger and working on the turn lanes. They might be able to open by the end of the year but the schedule may be adjusted.
- They are reviewing underground utility work on Catherine Street then they will review the watermain and sewer. They are also working with a neighbor due to utilities located on the south side of Catherine. The utilities are impacting tree roots and the tree will likely have to be removed.

Administrator Snider introduced Public Works Director Rittenhouse who shared the following project updates:

- The water tower painting will go to bid opening on August 7th.
- They have replaced 11 lead service lines on Walnut Street and hope to be done by Friday.
- They hope to have the street sweeper available by the end of September but should know more next week.

Aldersperson Butler feels that previously, it was an almost unanimous agreement to remove the medians on BUS24. He feels they are unfriendly to businesses. He wondered if it could be communicated to the IDOT engineer. Engineer Carr confirmed that it can be discussed once an engineer is chosen. Aldersperson Brownfield agreed and noted safety issues when mowing the medians. He noted the increased difficulties due to the growth of the city. Mayor Manier feels we can look into it, noting that the same issues were discussed when they reworked the Sunnyland area, where they chose to create turn lanes instead.

**Nofsinger Rd., Watermain Completion Purchase Authorization** Public Works Director Rittenhouse shared that the city received water quality complaints on Nofsinger. The desire is to have water that is used so it doesn't get stagnant. This is a large watermain that doesn't turn over enough water, causing water quality issues. This would involve about 340 feet and was quoted at \$120,000 with an additional \$30,000 for unforeseen issues. Staff feels this is necessary for water quality.  
Aldersperson Adams motioned to approve; Aldersperson McIntyre seconded.  
8 Ayes: Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, McIntyre, Smith, Stevens  
0 Nays:  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

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**First Reading Ord:** Planning and Development Director Oliphant explained that this is the second annexation request along this area of N. Main Street, near Cruger Road due to a failing watermain. The city anticipates that others will submit requests as well. He shared that these connections are easy. City Administrator Snider provided the following ordinance for consideration:  
**Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would annex a parcel at 1033 N. Main Street totaling 1.2 acres into the City of Washington corporate limits and zone it to R-1A  
**Title:** Request by Jared and Sarah Sutter to Annex 1033 N. Main Street

**Second Reading Ord:** City Administrator Snider provided the following ordinance:  
**Synopsis:** Adoption of this ordinance would amend Section 31.41 of the City Municipal Code dedicated to the Supervisor Selection Committee making the City Administrator and two City Council members, appointed by the mayor, members of the Committee; with the City Administrator serving as Chairman. Additionally, it would require anyone outside the Washington Police department eligible for Sergeant to be proposed by the Chief of Police.  
**Title:** Police Supervisor Selection Committee Code Amendment  
Alderson Brownfield motioned to approve; Alderson Smith seconded.  
**8 Ayes:** Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, McIntyre, Smith, Stevens  
**0 Nays:**  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Alderson Comments** Alderson Smith asked for an update regarding Candlewood Bridge repairs. Engineer Carr shared that we are still waiting on IDOT.  
Alderson McIntyre thanked staff for completing the new sidewalks on Eagle Avenue before school started. He has heard several compliments.  
Alderson Brownfield reminded everyone about the Night Out Against Crime event that will take place at Oakridge Park tomorrow evening.

**Executive Session** At 6:45 p.m. Alderson Brownfield motioned to enter into executive session; Alderson Smith seconded for the purpose of 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act.

**8 Ayes:** Adams, Blundy, Brownfield, Butler, Martin, McIntyre, Smith, Stevens  
**0 Nays:**  
Motion carried by roll call vote.

**Adjournment** At 8:15 p.m. Alderson Brownfield moved to adjourn; Alderson Smith seconded. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

  
Valeri L. Brod, City Clerk